

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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H-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SP-02 AID-05
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EWT, URUS

SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP ON JOINT COMMERCIAL COMMISSION

REF: STATE 160935

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH AGREEMENT BETWEEN US AND SOVIETS
AT MEETING OF JOINT COMMERCIAL COMMISSION, DEPUTY ASSISTANT
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE REICH MET ON JULY 15 WITH SOVIET
TRADE REPRESENTATIVE MKRTUMOV AND REPRESENTATIVES OF
SOVIET COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE US. LATTER
INCLUDED BESSMERTNIY OF AMTORG, SHCHUKIN REPRESENTING
TRADE AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR SHIKTOROV OF
KAMA PURCHASING COMMISSION; ALSO PRESENT WAS SOVIET EMBASSY
ECONOMIC COUNSELOR ZAKHMATOV. REPRESENTATIVES OF STATE
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AND TREASURY ALSO TOOK PART.

2. SOVIETS RAISED FOLLOWING ISSUES DURING MEETING: (A)
REQUEST FOR US APPROVAL OF ADDITION OF TWO SOVIETS TO
AMTORG STAFF TO REPLACE TWO AMTORG EMPLOYEES TRANSFERRED
TO BELARUS MACHINERY INC. MINUTES OF LAST COMMISSION
MEETING REFER TO US CONSIDERING SOVIET REQUEST FOR TWO

SOVIETS TO WORK AT BELARUS MACHINERY DURING 1977.

SOVIETS, HOWEVER, APPARENTLY WANTED THE TWO TO WORK AT AMTORG. (B) EXTENSION OF LIFE OF KAMA PURCHASING COMMISSION FOR TWO YEARS. MKRTUMOV STATED THAT LETTER TO SECRETARY OF TREASURY BLUMENTHAL REQUESTING TWO-YEAR EXTENSION OF KAMA COMMISSION HAD BEEN SIGNED BY PATOLICHEV IN MOSCOW THAT MORNING. HE ALSO SAID THAT US HAD HITHERTO INSISTED ON ONE-YEAR EXTENSION FOR KAMA COMMISSION ON GROUNDS OF RECIPROCITY, BECAUSE SOVIETS HAD ONLY APPROVED ONE-YEAR ACCREDITATIONS FOR US COMPANIES IN THE USSR. NOW, HOWEVER, HE SAID SOVIETS HAD AUTHORIZED TWO-YEAR EXTENSIONS FOR DOW CHEMICAL, ENGELHARD MINERALS, SATRA, AND "ALL BANKS." (C) REQUEST FOR QUICK AUTHORIZATION FOR SOVIET FTO LICENZINTORG TO FORM JOINT COMPANIES IN US. MKRTUMOV STATED THAT SOVIETS HAD ORIGINALLY REQUESTED PERMISSION TO SET UP THIS JOINT COMPANY TWO YEARS AGO AND THAT THE SOVIET SIDE HAD ANSWERED A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROSPECTIVE JOINT COMPANY WHICH HAD BEEN ASKED SOME MONTHS AGO BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND EDGAR OF STATE HAD TALKED TO THE PRESIDENT OF LICENZINTORG. (D) REQUEST FOR PERMISSION FOR SOVIET TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS TEMPORARILY IN THE US TO RENT OR PURCHASE CARS. BESSMERTNIY STATED THAT FOREIGNERS IN USSR UNDER SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES WERE ALLOWED TO RENT CARS THROUGH INTOURIST. (E) EXPORT LICENSES. SOVIETS RAISED A NUMBER OF LICENSE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CASES AND IT WAS AGREED THAT THEY WOULD DISCUSS THESE DIRECTLY WITH OFFICE OF EXPORT ADMINISTRATION WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF MRS. HEISS OF USSR DIVISION.

3. REICH TOLD MKRTUMOV US SIDE WOULD LOOK INTO MATTERS A THROUGH D AND HOPED TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE SOME INFORMATION ON THESE ITEMS AT THEIR NEXT MEETING.

4. US SIDE DECIDED TO FORWARD REPORT ON BUSINESS FACILITATION ISSUES TO EMBASSY MOSCOW FOR DELIVERY THERE, RATHER THAN HAND IT OVER TO MKRTUMOV. TEXT OF REPORT WILL BE CABLED TO EMBASSY.

5. ALSO DISCUSSED WERE PRELIMINARY PLAN FOR SEMINAR ON TRADE PROMOTION TO BE HELD UNDER AUSPICES OF EXPERTS' WORKING GROUP IN DECEMBER. NEITHER SIDE HAS SUGGESTIONS FOR TOPIC FOR SECOND SEMINAR AT THIS TIME.

6. IT WAS AGREED THAT NEXT INFORMAL MEETING WOULD BE HELD DURING FIRST PART OF SEPTEMBER. VANCE

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Sent Date: 19-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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